

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 5 1. A method of making a computational service available comprising:
initiating a communication between a unit and a first server;
determining a location of a session on one of a plurality of servers; and
redirecting said unit to a second server having said session.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said initiating comprises:
said unit broadcasting a message to said plurality of servers; and
said first server responding to said message.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said initiating is in response to a
prior server failing.
- 20 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said session is associated with a
token.
- 25 5. The method of claim 4, wherein said determining comprises:
said first server sending a message to said plurality of servers, said
message comprising said token; and
said plurality of servers responding to said first server with session
information associated with said token.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a most recent session from a plurality of sessions.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising securing messages
5 between said unit and said servers.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said securing is performed with a keyed hash signature.

10 9. A method of making computational services available comprising:
a first server receiving a host message from a second server; and
said first server forming a network topology using said host message.

15 10. The method of claim 9, wherein said host message is sent
repeatedly.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising updating status in said network topology based on a relationship between multiple host messages.

20 12. The method of claim 9, wherein said host message is broadcast to a group of servers.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising securing said message with a key known to a trusted group of servers.

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